

## The Prognostic Factors of Seizure Recurrence in Newly Diagnosed Epilepsy

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**Background:** To evaluate the prognostic factors of seizure recurrence in newly diagnosed epilepsy at 1 year follow up. **Methods:** From the IUED (Inje University Epilepsy Database) we retrieved the epilepsy patients who had never before taken any antiepileptics (AED) and were followed up for 1 year. We retrospectively reviewed the medical records with special attention to : a) age of onset, b) history of antecedents, c) seizure frequency before starting AED, d) abnormal neurological examination, e) MRI findings, f) EEG findings, g) epileptic syndrome classification. We defined seizure recurrence as any seizure occurring during the 1 year evaluation follow up except during the AED titration period, having only an aura and being in poor compliance. We analyzed the prognostic factors that could reliably predict the seizure recurrence at 1 year follow up. **Results:** We found 104 patients (64 male, 40 female) who met the inclusion criteria. The mean age of onset was 23.7 years. Of 104 patients 19 had generalized epilepsy, 82 had partial epilepsy and 3 had unclassified epilepsy. Thirteen percent (13/104) developed seizure recurrence at the 1 year follow up. Significant univariate associations were noted between seizure recurrence and these factors: presence of antecedents [ odds ratio (OR) 4.8; 95% confidence interval (CI) 1.2-18.5 ], post-encephalitic epilepsy (OR 7.7; 95% CI 2.1 ~ 28), and abnormal neurological examination(OR 14.6; 95% CI 3.9-55). With multivariate logistic regression, the independent predictor of seizure recurrence was the abnormal neurological examination (OR 9.7; 95% CI 2.4 ~ 39.4). **Conclusions:** The chance of developing a seizure recurrence at the 1 year follow up was 13 percent and the prognostic factors were the presence of antecedents, post-encephalitic epilepsy and an abnormal neurological examination.

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**Key Words :** Prognostic factor, Seizure recurrence, Antecedents, Post-encephalitic epilepsy,  
Abnormal neurological examination

		(remission)가	
0.5%	4%	10 ~ 20%	
	1,2	3,4	
가	80 ~ 90%	가	
		가	
Manuscript received February 1999, 24. Accepted in final form March 1999, 23		Collaborative study	5
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(non-epileptiform discharge) .<sup>12</sup> (人)  
; ILAE (International League  
Against Epilepsy)<sup>13</sup> 가

(selection bias) 가

가 1 가 MRI

가  
가

- (case-control study)  
Chi-square, Fisher's  
Exact test, Student's test  
Logistic regression  
Odds ratio

University Epilepsy Database(IUED))

1	가 가	(consec-
utive)	104	(acute symptomatic epilepsy)

1  
가 (aura)  
가 (compliance)가

(titration)

1

. (ㄱ) ;  
 , (ㄴ) (antecedent events) ;  
 가 ,  
 .  
 , (ㄷ) ,  
 (ㄹ) ;  
 (mental retardation) 가 . (ㅁ)

MRI ; (hippocampal sclerosis)  
 Jackson MRI <sup>11</sup>  
 (visual analysis) . (H) EEG ;  
 (epileptiform discharge)

IUED 104

29 (6~74 )

64 , 40 . 25.6

(12~96 ) .

23.7 (5~72 ) 19

, 82 , 3

(undetermined epilepsy) . 19

18 (idiopathic

generalized epilepsy) 가 82

1 (idiopathic partial

epilepsy), 21 , 60

가 (Table 1).

MRI 65

39 .

10 가 29

{ (cerebromalacia) 20 ,

(neuronal migration disorder)가 2 ,

1 6 }

(Table 2).

13% (13/104) 1

, 13

**Table 1.** Epileptic syndrome classification of the patients

Type of epilepsy	Number of patients
Generalized epilepsy	
Idiopathic epilepsy	18
Symptomatic epilepsy	1
Partial epilepsy	
Idiopathic epilepsy	1
T.L.E.	21
E.T.L.E.	60
Unclassified epilepsy	3
Total	104

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T.L.E. : Temporal lobe epilepsy

E.T.L.E. : Extratemporal lobe epilepsy

91  
가 (Table 3).  
33±7.6 28.8  
±13.5 (p=0.31),  
7.6±6 7.9±  
7.7 (p=0.97) 가 .  
77% (10/13)  
55% (50/91)  
[OR=2.7, 95% confidence interval  
(CI) 0.7-10.6, p=0.39], 54% (7/13)  
MRI  
35% (32/91)  
(OR=2.1, 95% CI 0.65~6.8, p=0.21).  
92% (12/13), 80% (73/91)  
가 (OR=2.8, 95% CI 0.3~23.4, p=0.33)  
15% (2/13),  
27% (25/91) (OR=0.6, 95% CI 0.1~2.9, p=0.52)  
가 .  
77% (10/13), 42% (38/91)  
가  
(OR=4.8, 95% CI 1.2-18.5, P=0.02),  
62% (8/13),  
24% (22/91)  
(OR=7.7, 95% CI 2.1-28, P=0.002). ,  
69% (9/13)  
14% (13/91)

**Table 2.** MRI findings of the patients

MRI findings	Number of patients
Normal finding	65
Abnormal findings	
Cerebromalacia	20
Hippocampal sclerosis	10
Neuronal migration disorder	2
Tumor	1
Others	6
Total	104

**Table 3.** Univariate comparison of seizure recurrence and controlled groups

Factors	Recurrence n=13, n(%)	Controlled n=91, n(%)	OR	95% CI	p-Value
Age of onset(years)	33.0±7.6	28.8±13.5	0.31		
Frequency of seizure	7.6±6.0	7.9±7.7	0.97		
Presence of antecedents*	10(77)	38(42)	4.8	1.2-18.5	0.02
History of encephalitis*	8(62)	22(24)	7.7	2.1-28.0	0.002
Abnormal neurologic examination*	9(69)	13(14)	14.6	3.9-55.0	0.0001
Abnormal EEG	10(77)	50(55)	2.7	0.7-10.6	0.15
Epileptiform discharges on EEG	9(69)	50(55)	1.9	0.4-8.2	0.39
Abnormal MRI	7(54)	32(35)	2.1	0.65-6.8	0.21
Partial epilepsy	12(92)	73(80)	2.8	0.3-23.4	0.33
Temporal lobe epilepsy	2(15)	25(27)	0.6	0.1-2.9	0.52

\*Statistically significant, p<0.05

가 (OR=14.6, 95% CI  
3.9~55, P=0.0001).  
가 ,  
Multiple logistic regression  
(OR=9.72, 95%  
CI 2.4~39.4, P<0.01)  
(Table 4).  
78.8% (82/104)  
. Collaborative study<sup>5</sup>  
Elwes<sup>10</sup> 29.3%, 21%  
(15 5 )  
. Semah<sup>20</sup> 16  
62% 가  
8% 1 13% (13  
/104) Collaborative study<sup>5</sup> 38%  
Elwes<sup>10</sup> 60% .  
1  
가 가

**Table 4.** Multivariate models for predictors of seizure recurrence

Predictors	OR	95% CI	p-Value
Presence of antecedents	1.86	0.39-9.92	>0.05
History of encephalitis	0.83	0.54-14.7	>0.05
Abnormal neurologic examination*	9.72	2.40-39.4	<0.01

\* Statistically significant, p<0.05

가

13% (13/104) 가

1 1

6, 14, 15 , 8, 16 , 15, 17-19 , 10, 14 , 9, 15, 17 , 6, 17 , 20 , 1

1 1 10

가

6, 14, 15 가

8, 16 , 15, 17-19

가

1

Berg<sup>6</sup> Camfield<sup>17</sup> 가

(etiology)

Semah<sup>20</sup>

(symptomatic seizure)

가

Jackson<sup>11</sup> MRI

가 9.6%

(10/104) Van Paesschen<sup>21</sup>

9.5% (6/63) . Van Paes-

schen<sup>21</sup> 가

1

가 1

10% 20, 22

가

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